

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Lithuania

DATE DISTR. 28 Sep 1953

SUBJECT Railroad Information/Chemical Plants/
Description of the Town of Sveksna

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1

PLACE
ACQUIRED LithuaniaNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW) 25X1DATE
ACQUIRED BY SOURCESUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

25X1

THIS IS UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS PAGE IS PROHIBITED.

25X1

1. Q. For the period 1940-1944, describe any major policy changes in railroad operation of the Lithuanian system that manifested USSR influence in this operation.

25X1

- A. There was a complete change-over to the Soviet system including a change in gauge from Western European to Soviet. All the locomotives were changed except six of our best new Skoda engines which could not be changed. There was complete Soviet administration retaining for at least a while some Lithuanians. Later a large number of Lithuanians with railroad experience were relocated in the USSR.

25X1

2. Q. Was there any evidence of long range Soviet planning to change over from steam operation to Diesel/electric locomotives?

- A. There was no evidence of any long range Soviet planning to change from steam to Diesel/electric locomotives.

3. Q. Give any figures showing total track mileage in Lithuania in 1940 and any later data. Also indicate amount of double track.

- A. The total track mileage was approximately 3000 km of standard Western European gauge, some one meter gauge track. The track between Kaunas and the German frontier was double-tracked.

4. Q. If possible, locate each transloading point known and describe the methods used at these points between the USSR and Lithuania. How long did it take to transload a car of given weight?

25X1

- A. There was no transloading point in Lithuania but there was one in Latvia at Daugavpils. Here axles were changed on those cars which were suitable for interchange. These cars were marked with a "TV". These cars were raised with four screw jacks and two bars and the axles changed. It took about fifteen minutes to change axles on a car with a 10-15 ton payload.

25X1

25X1

PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

DISTRIBUTION									

OFR EV

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 2 -

25X1

25X1

5.

6. Q. Give location and description of the largest yard in Lithuania. (Whether track or hump marshalling yard.)

A. The largest yard in Lithuania was at Siauliai and another large one at Radviliskis. Both of these are track marshalling yards. The only hump marshalling yard was at Klaipeda.

7. Q. Describe any difficulties that obtained from the use of hard water in locomotives and methods used to combat same.

A. The water was softened by ion exchange.

8. Q. What were types and quality of fuel used in steam locomotives?

A. Previous to the beginning of World War II [redacted] coal after it became impossible to obtain this [redacted] Soviet and German coal; in the yard engines [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

9. Q. [redacted] give a list of the chemical plants in Lithuania or in any of the other Baltic states with which you are familiar? The following data concerning each of these plants are desired:

25X1

- (a) What products were produced?
(b) What was the production of each of these products?
(c) What was the distribution of the production from each of the plants? What are your estimates concerning the operations of these plants in 1953?

A. [redacted] three sugar plants. One at Panevezys, one at Mariamole and one at Paventis. All of these produce for domestic consumption and usually are only run in the fall.

25X1

10. Q. Give a description of the town of Sveksna. The description should include:

- (a) Character of surrounding terrain.
(b) Economic activity.
(c) Types of residences.
(d) Street construction.
(e) Character of the roads leading into Sveksna from the surrounding countryside.
(f) Population

A. The town of Sveksna was a small town of three thousand people; a thousand of whom were Jews and were exterminated. It is located in a hilly country with many small rivers and forests nearby. The economic activity [redacted] class as small artisan-type. The town was completely destroyed by fire in 1925 and was rebuilt. It is built around a park 500 meters x 200 meters with radial streets going out from the park. The houses are of brick in the center and frame further out; the streets are of cobblestone. There is a good gravel highway leading in from Memel.

25X1

11. Q. Give information regarding the training of chemical engineers at the Technical College in Kaunas, Lithuania.

A. There was no chemical engineering training at the Technical College in Kaunas, Lithuania. Only civil, mechanical, electrical and architectural engineering were taught.

ANY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

- end -

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

755.28
755.421
755.41

45M
35M
35M

755.42
755.35
726.1
831.3

45M
45M
45M
45M

Page Denied